



# DELAWARE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

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## The Delaware Nutrient Management Commission Minutes of the Full Commission Meeting Held March 14, 2006

In attendance:

<b><i>Commission Members Present</i></b>	<b><i>Ex-officios Present</i></b>
W. Vanderwende, Chair	W. Rohrer
D. Baker	J. Hughes
M. Adkins	G. Llewellyn
C. Larimore	<b><i>Others Present</i></b>
C. Solberg	M. Cooke, DAG
R. Sterling	K. Foskey
B. Schilling	T. Crenshaw
E. Lewandowski	A. Shober
C. Fifer	B. Palmer
R. Baldwin	S. Kepfer
T. Keen	P. Sample
J. Manchester	S. Hollenbeck
<b><i>Commission Members Absent</i></b>	
C. West	
B. O'Neill	

*This meeting was properly notified and posted as required by 29 Del. C. §10004 et al.*

### **Minutes:**

#### **Call to Order/Welcome:**

Chairman B. Vanderwende called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

E. Lewandowski noted the following correction to the February 14, 2006 Full Commission meeting:

- E. Lewandowski was absent and C. Fifer was present.

**E. Lewandowski motioned to approve the February 14, 2006 Full Commission meeting minutes. J. Manchester seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

#### **Discussion and Action Items:**

*Present Fertilizer sales data and Lab update by DDA:*

T. Crenshaw, Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) presented the State of Delaware Fertilizer Tonnage Report for fiscal year 1995 through fiscal year 2005 (attached to minutes). The details presented follows:

- Fertilizer manufacturers must register their products with the State of Delaware before they can distribute it.

- Fertilizer manufacturers must report the amount of tons they sell in the State of Delaware.
- The data represents the amount of tons sold in Delaware and does not represent application.

Discussion ensued concerning data collection and reporting. Specifics of the presentation can be located in the report attached. B. Vanderwende thanked T. Crenshaw for the presentation and commended the report.

B. Rohrer introduced A. Shober who will be working with T. Sims of the University of Delaware. They will be implementing the grant proposal which was approved by the Full Commission to better implement and quantify estimate nutrient balance in the state.

*Present 2005 Environmental Stewardship results.*

B. Rohrer presented the 2005 Environmental Stewardship results for those who were not present at the Governor's Conference. He also shared establishment of the stewardship program along with requirements for qualification. B. Rohrer reported specifics of the farm visits of each nominee.

**Subcommittee Reports:**

*Program and Education:*

*Discuss Continuing Education Credit Criteria:*

B. Rohrer provided a matrix of continuing education programs for the period of 2004 through 2006. He provided this listing due to the discussion that ensued at the last Full Commission meeting. B. Rohrer indicated there are opportunities upcoming.

B. Rohrer provided a copy of a cover letter which is sent in December to certification holders. This letter accompanies a newsletter that outlines continuing education opportunities.

C. Solberg noted the Program and Education Subcommittee is making the following recommendation:

- Formatting and text adjustments to the letter sent to certification holders.
- Addition of a column to the continuing education matrix to indicate what level of certification is appropriate for the class.

C. Solberg noted there was a discussion at the last Program and Education Subcommittee meeting on On-Farm Assessments. Specifically, affording the opportunity of the assessment as an option in order to determine if an operation has a discharge or not. More work may be needed with the poultry companies to encourage the use of the On-Farm voluntary assessment.

B. Vanderwende stated he attended the Joint Finance Committee meeting with B. Rohrer, D. Baker and the DDA. They reported to the committee what the Full Commission accomplished during the past year. D. Baker noted the Full Commission is always very well received by the Joint Finance Committee. He further noted after the meeting individuals commended the Full Commission on the good job they are doing.

*Technology:*

J. Manchester reported he visited the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Research Facility in Huntsville on February 15, 2006. He met with several individuals and it was noted great progress has been made reducing the phosphorus content of poultry litter, but the USDA felt further reduction could be made through adjusting the poultry feed composition. This would require an adjustment in feed formulation. J. Manchester reported he spoke with B. Saylor at the Governor's Conference about this and he agreed based on his data. J. Manchester stated there is room for improvement and stated the Full Commission should further this more. He provided details of his visit.

J. Manchester recommended nutrient balance performance, incorporation and further gains in alterations to the poultry diet to be discussed further. He also recommended inviting Dr. Mycinger of the USDA to a Full Commission meeting to

discuss his research and to possibly offer new ideas. J. Hughes stated the planning stage must be met first. Discussion ensued concerning the logistical aspects of the recommendation.

**J. Manchester motioned to refer the ideas of incorporation and nutrient balance performance to the Technology Subcommittee for further consideration and to report back to the Full Commission and to the Industry Relations Subcommittee the responsibility to consult with the integrators as to what their plans are in reference to diet modifications. D. Baker seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Discuss ensued concerning technological advances specifically, the logistics, acceptance, etc.

#### **Administrator's Report:**

*Complaints:* There have been nine informal complaints since the February meeting.

*Budget:* Refer to Administrator's Report attached.

*Nutrient Management Planning:* 386,323 total acreage to date with 63,201 plans (Private) and 10,119 plans (Public) for 2006.

*Nutrient Management Relocation:* 161,863 total tons relocated to date with 40,481 for 2006.

*Certification:* 2,165 certifications have been approved.

*CAFO Update:* Refer to Administrator's Report attached.

*20% Mandate for 2006:* 1,390 were mandated for 2006. There are 214 Non-Respondents.

*Education/Outreach:* The annual report should go to print the end of this week. Interviews were conducted for the open position in the office and a decision should be made soon. Refer to Administrator's Report attached.

*Freedom of Information Act Request:* N/A

#### **Public Comments:**

B. Vanderwende noted it was very important for the Commissioners to attend committee meetings. He noted the last Technology did not have a quorum and it is a waste of time. B. Vanderwende asked everyone to call if they cannot attend a meeting.

#### **Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Full Commission is scheduled for April 11, 2006 at 7:00 pm.

#### **Adjournment:**

Chairman Vanderwende adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Approved,

W. Vanderwende, Chairman

WRR/mrp